

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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73

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAJ-01

/060 W

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R 141636Z OCT 76

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6545

INFO AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMCONSUL BELFAST

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 16442

E.O. 11652: XGDS -1

TAGS: PINT, PFOR. UK, EI, UR

SUBJECT: NORTHERN IRELAND: REPORTED SOVIET INTEREST
IN PARAMILITARIES

1. CONSUL GENERAL BELFAST REPORTS THAT HE WAS APPROACHED BY "A LEADING UNIONIST POLITICIAN" WHO STATED THAT AN UNNAMED OFFICIAL FROM THE SOVIET EMBASSY, DUBLIN, HAD RECENTLY BEEN IN BELFAST AND CALLED REPRESENTATIVES OF FOLLOWING PARAMILITARY ORGANIZATIONS: ULSTER DEFENSE ASSOCIATION (UDA) AND BOTH THE PROVISIONAL AND OFFICIAL WINGS OF THE IRA. CONGEN'S SOURCE SAID THAT HE HAD RECEIVED THIS INFORMATION FROM UDA LEADER ANDY TYRIE AND THAT HE HAD ADVISED TYRIE TO "STRING HIM (THE SOVIET) ALONG". SOURCE WENT ON TO SAY THAT TYRIE FELT THE VISITOR WAS "LOOKING AROUND FOR SOMETHING TO SUPPORT", AND THAT HE HAD ADVISED HMG OF TYRIE'S REPORT, BUT THAT "NO ACTION" HAD BEEN TAKEN.

2. EMBASSY, OF COURSE, CANNOT EVALUATE ACCURACY OF THIS REPORT. INFORMATION, HOWEVER, HAS BEEN PASSED ON TO NORTHERN IRELAND OFFICE.

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SPIERS

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